

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method for performing a hardware setup operation on a data processing system, said method comprising:

storing a hardware setup program and a plurality of dynamic link modules in a server data processing system;

coupling a data processing system to said server data processing system via a data processing system network;

in response to a request to execute said hardware setup program by said data processing system, executing said hardware setup program within said server data processing system, wherein said hardware setup program performs a hardware setup operation required by said data processing system by using a service provided by an operating system when said hardware setup operation exists within said operating system running on said data processing system, wherein said hardware setup program calls a BIOS program within said data processing system to perform said hardware setup operation when said hardware setup operation does not exist within said operating system running on said data processing system; and

modifying hardware configuration data within said data processing system according to instructions generated from said execution of said hardware setup program within said server data processing system; and

~~de-coupling said data processing system from said server data processing system after a completion of said hardware setup operation.~~

Please cancel Claims 2-3.

4. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said method further includes transferring one or more of said dynamic link modules from said server data processing system to said data processing system via said data processing system network as a result of said execution of said hardware setup program.

5. (currently amended) An apparatus for performing a hardware setup operation on a data processing system, said apparatus comprising:

means for storing a hardware setup program and a plurality of dynamic link modules in a server data processing system;

means for coupling a data processing system to said server data processing system via a data processing system network;

means for executing said hardware setup program within said server data processing system, in response to a request to execute said hardware setup program by said data processing system, wherein said hardware setup program performs a hardware setup operation required by said data processing system by using a service provided by an operating system when said hardware setup operation exists within said operating system running on said data processing system, wherein said hardware setup program calls a BIOS program within said data processing system to perform said hardware setup operation when said hardware setup operation does not exist within said operating system running on said data processing system; and

means for modifying hardware configuration data within said data processing system according to instructions generated from said execution of said hardware setup program within said server data processing system; and

~~means for decoupling said data processing system from said server data processing system after a completion of said hardware setup operation.~~

Please cancel Claims 6-7.

8. (previously presented) The apparatus of Claim 5, wherein said apparatus further includes means for transferring one or more of said dynamic link modules from said server data processing system to said data processing system via said data processing system network as a result of said execution of said hardware setup program.

17. (currently amended) A computer program product for performing a hardware setup operation on a data processing system, said computer program product comprising:

program code means for storing a hardware setup program and a plurality of dynamic link modules in a server data processing system;

program code mean for coupling a data processing system to said server data processing system via a data processing system network;

program code means for executing said hardware setup program within said server data processing system, in response to a request to execute said hardware setup program by said data processing system, wherein said hardware setup program performs a hardware setup operation required by said data processing system by using a service provided by an operating system when said hardware setup operation exists within said operating system running on said data processing system, wherein said hardware setup program calls a BIOS program within said data processing system to perform said hardware setup operation when said hardware setup operation does not exist within said operating system running on said data processing system; and

program code means for modifying hardware configuration data within said data processing system according to instructions generated from said execution of said hardware setup program within said server data processing system; and

~~program code means for de-coupling said data processing system from said server data processing system after a completion of said hardware setup operation.~~

Please cancel Claims 18-19.

20. (Amended) The computer program product of Claim 17, wherein said computer program product further includes program code means for transferring one or more of said dynamic link modules from said server data processing system to said data processing system via said data processing system network as a result of said execution of said hardware setup program.